[*Translation*]

Non Magnetic Steel Structurals and Bulb Bars

4982. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether non-magnetic steel structural including bulb bars are being imported by the Navy;

(b) whether efforts have been made to produce these structurals indigenously;

(c) if so, the details therefor; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) These items have not been imported since 1984.

(b) to (d). Non-magnetic steel plates and electrodes are now being manufactured indigenously. Indigenous development on non-magnetic bulb-bars has, however, not been possible due to the high development cost involved.

[*English*]

Export Quota of Non-Basmati Rice

4983. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rice exporters have secured export quota for non-basmati rice at high price of $270 per tonne as against a prevailing price of around $230 in international market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken up this issue and called the representatives of the All India Rice Exporters' Association and APEDA to find out the facts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (d). The rice exporters have secured export quotas for non-basmati rice at prices ranging between US$ 625.33 to US $ 245 per MT. The average comes to US $ 258.71 per MT. There is no fixed international price of rice and like other commodities the price of rice is subject to wide fluctuations depending on the variety, quality, miling, percentage of brokers, packing and other factors as well as international demand and supply situation.

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Auhortiy had allotted the quotas under a transparent policy. In view of this, the question of calling the representatives of All-India Rice Exporters Association and Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority by the government to find out the facts. does not arise.

Life Insurance Cover to Small and Marginal Farmers

4984. SHRI M.G. REDDY:
SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide life insurance cover to all the small and marginal farmers in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?